GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1584
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
SALE OF SPURIOUS MINERAL WATER
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a)whether partially treated tap water is being sold as mineral water in various parts of the country;

(b)if so, whether several companies involved in such wrongful trade practices have been caught recently;

(c)if so, the number thereof, Statewise; and

(d)the concrete plans formulated to ensure that spurious mineral water bottles are not able to reach the markets?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a):Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water were brought under Mandatory Certification Scheme of the Bureau of Indian Standards through Gazette Notification No. GSR 759 (E) and GSR 760 (E) with effect from 29th March, 2001 issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act. According to these notifications, no person is authorized to manufacture, sell or exhibit for sale Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water except under Bureau of Indian Standards Marks. Hence, the sale of the Bottled Water by the manufacturers not having BIS Certification Marks Licence is illegal and unauthorized under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. State Health Authorities are responsible for implementing the above provision under PFA Act.

(b) to (d): Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection and Surveillance Inspection ensures that all its licensees for Packaged Drinking Water/Packaged Natural Mineral Water strictly adhere to the specifications prescribed in the relevant Indian Standards. Whenever any discrepancy is observed by the BIS, the licensee is placed under `stop marking` which implies that the Packaged Drinking Water/Packaged Natural Mineral Water is not to be manufactured till corrective action is taken by the licensee. Action against the manufacturers of Bottled Water without ISI Mark is taken by the designated State Health Authorities under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules framed thereunder. In case, any Packaged Drinking Water/Packaged Natural Mineral Water with spurious ISI Mark is supplied in the market, action against the manufacturer of such product is taken by BIS as per the provisions contained in the BIS Act 1986. So far, 61 search and seizure operations have been carried out by BIS since implementation of Mandatory Certification of Packaged Drinking Water/Packaged Natural Mineral Water. The State wise break up for the last three years is as per Annexure.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (b) TO (d) OF REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1584 FOR 19/7/2004 REGARDING SALE OF SPURIOUS MINERAL WATER

DETAILS OF CASES OF MISUSE OF ISI MARK ON PACKAGED DRINKING WATER SINCE 2001

YEAR	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 up to 30-06-2004
Andhra Pradesh	-	1	11	4
Bihar	-	-	-	-
Chandigarh	-	-	-	-
Chhatisgarh	-	1	-	-
Daman	-	-	-	-
Delhi	2	-	1	-

Gujarat	4	2	-	1
Haryana	-	1	1	-
Jharkhand	-	-	-	-
Karnataka	-	-	2	-
Kerala	-	-	-	1
Maharashtra	-	-	2	-
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	4	-
Orissa	-	-	1	-
Punjab	-	-	-	-
Rajasthan	-	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	-	-	7	-
Uttar Pradesh	1	2	9	2
Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-
West Bengal	-	-	1	-
Total	7	7	39	8